

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 23, 25, 28, 31, 33, 37, and 39 are amended and claims 7, 26, and 34 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-6, 8-25, 27-33, and 35-39 are pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 13-16, 25-27, 31-32, and 37-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,838,313 to Hou et al. (hereinafter "Hou") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,829 to Sidana (hereinafter "Sidana"). Claim 26 has been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection to claim 26 moot. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5, 13-16, 25, 27, 31-32, and 37-39, as amended, are not obvious over Hou in view of Sidana.

Hou discloses a multimedia-based reporting system that allows drawing, text, and audio recording annotations to be added to the report (see, col. 2, lines 40-61, and col. 6, lines 52-66). The reporting system of Hou includes an annotation input interpreter that provides an interface between the user annotation input and three types of annotation handlers that can add annotations to a "canvas" of the report: a static annotation handler, a dynamic annotation handler, and an annotation on annotation handler (see, Fig. 9, and col. 6, lines 25-29). The reporting system of Hou also includes a mail report handler that allows the user to select a receiver's name and the report to be sent to the receiver via an e-mail system (see, col. 3, lines 8-13, and col. 4, lines 26-31). Hou further discloses that the annotation on annotation handler allows a user to select a desired segment of

1 an annotation and make a new annotation which is a reply to this selected segment
2 (see, col. 9, lines 14-24).

3 Sidana is directed to general purpose web annotations without modifying
4 the browser. In Sidana, a "redirector" is situated between a client browser and a
5 server including a web document (see, Fig. 1). The redirector stores the user's
6 annotations to the web document, so the next time the user's client browser
7 requests the web document, the request is routed through the redirector which adds
8 the user's previous annotations to create an augmented web document that is
9 displayed to the user. Additionally, any URLs within the web document are
10 modified by the redirector so that if the user selects one of the URLs the browser
11 is routed to the redirector, which can then obtain the document corresponding to
12 the selected URL and display to the user any of the user's previously entered
13 annotations for that new document. See, col. 4, lines 57-67, and col. 1, line 55 –
14 col. 2, line 32.

15 In contrast, amended **claim 1** includes:

16 an annotation server, coupled to the client computer, to,
17 maintain an annotation database having a plurality of
18 annotations corresponding to the multimedia content,
19 provide the plurality of annotations to the client computer for
20 playback,
21 send electronic mail messages including annotations to
22 recipients identified by the client computer,
23 generate new annotations based on electronic mail messages
24 **received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages**
25 **and not in response to the sent electronic mail messages**

22 See, emphasis added, lines 4-14. Applicant respectfully submits that Hou does not
23 disclose or suggest generating new annotations based on electronic mail messages
24 received both in response to the sent electronic mail messages and not in response
25

1 to the sent electronic mail messages as claimed in amended claim 1. As discussed
2 above, Hou discloses sending a report including annotations to a receiver, and also
3 discloses some ability to make a new annotation which is a reply to a selected
4 segment of another annotation. However, Applicant respectfully submits that
5 neither the sending of a report including an annotation nor the using of some reply
6 ability to generate a new annotation discloses or suggests generating new
7 annotations in two different ways: one in response to sent electronic mail
8 messages and another not in response to sent electronic mail messages.

9 Sidana discloses sending an e-mail message if an expired document stored
10 in its memory has been altered at its source, and also sending an e-mail message if
11 any annotations are added to a particular document by others (see, col. 10, lines
12 26-45). However, Applicant respectfully submits that these e-mail messages to
13 indicate that new annotations have been added or that changes in an expired
14 document do not disclose or suggest generating new annotations based on
15 electronic mail messages received both in response to the sent electronic mail
16 messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail messages as claimed in
17 amended claim 1.

18 Given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests generating new
19 annotations based on electronic mail messages received both in response to the
20 sent electronic mail messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail
21 messages as claimed in amended claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that the
22 combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or suggest generating new
23 annotations based on electronic mail messages received both in response to the
24 sent electronic mail messages and not in response to the sent electronic mail
25 messages as claimed in amended claim 1. Thus, for at least these reasons,

1 Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Hou in view of
2 Sidana.

3 With respect to **claim 2**, claim 2 depends from amended claim 1, and
4 Applicant thus respectfully submits that claim 2 is allowable over the cited
5 references for at least the reasons discussed above with reference to amended
6 claim 1. Furthermore, claim 2 includes "a media server to manage streaming the
7 multimedia content to the client computer".

8 Sidana is cited as a server computer coupled to the client for streaming the
9 multimedia to the client computer (see, July 27 Office Action at ¶3, p. 2).
10 Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion. Sidana simply discloses
11 HTML for a web document that can be transferred to a redirector for augmentation
12 and transferred to a client web browser for display (see, col. 6, lines 33 – 67).
13 Applicant respectfully submits that the mere disclosure of HTML for a web
14 document does not disclose or suggest a media server streaming multimedia
15 content to a client computer. Streaming refers to, for example, data representing
16 various media types being provided over a network to a client computer on a real-
17 time, as-needed basis, rather than being pre-delivered in its entirety before
18 playback (see, for example, Applicant's specification at p. 2, lines 14-18).
19 Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in Hou or Sidana is streaming
20 multimedia content to a client computer disclosed or suggested.

21 Thus, given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests streaming
22 multimedia content to a client computer as recited in claim 2, Applicant
23 respectfully submits that the combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or
24 suggest streaming multimedia content to a client computer as recited in claim 2.
25

1 Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2 is
2 allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

3 With respect to **claim 5**, amended claim 5 depends from amended claim 1,
4 and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 5 is allowable over
5 the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with reference to claim
6 1. Furthermore, amended claim 5 includes:

7 wherein the client computer is further to transmit, to the media
8 server, **an identifier of a temporal segment of the multimedia**
9 **content that is after the beginning of the multimedia content**, and
10 wherein the media server is to **stream to the client computer the**
multimedia content beginning with the identified temporal
segment.

11 See, emphasis added, lines 1-5. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou
12 nor Sidana discloses or suggests multimedia content being streamed to the client
13 computer beginning with an identified temporal segment. Hou discloses the mail
14 report handler sending a report including annotations to the receiver. Thus, there
15 is nothing to be streamed to the receiver (he or she already has the report as part of
16 the message), much less any concept of beginning the streaming with a particular
17 identified segment that is after the beginning of the multimedia content as claimed
18 in amended claim 5. Sidana, on the other hand, discloses the user receiving, as the
19 augmented document, annotations from the redirector along with the requested
20 web document. Again, there is nothing being streamed to the user in Sidana,
21 much less beginning the streaming with a particular identified segment that is after
22 the beginning of the multimedia content as claimed in amended claim 5.

23 Thus, given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests beginning
24 streaming of multimedia content beginning with an identified temporal segment
25 that is after the beginning of the multimedia content as recited in claim 5,

1 Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Hou and Sidana does not
2 disclose or suggest beginning streaming of multimedia content beginning with an
3 identified temporal segment that is after the beginning of the multimedia content
4 as recited in claim 5. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully
5 submits that claim 5 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

6 With respect to **claim 13**, amended claim 13 includes,

7 generating an electronic mail message including,
8 the content of the new annotation,
9 an identifier of the media content, and
10 **an installation option that identifies an installation program that
can be used to install one or more modules allowing the content and
corresponding media content to be rendered; and**

11 See, emphasis added, lines 4-9. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou
12 nor Sidana discloses or suggests including, in an electronic mail message, the
13 content of a new annotation and an installation option that identifies an installation
14 program that can be used to install one or more modules allowing the content of
15 the new annotation and corresponding media content to be rendered as claimed in
16 amended claim 13. Although e-mail messages are discussed in both Hou and
17 Sidana, Applicant respectfully submits that the mere mention of e-mail messages
18 does not disclose or suggest an installation option included in an electronic mail
19 message as claimed in amended claim 13. Thus, for at least these reasons,
20 Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 13 is allowable over Hou in
21 view of Sidana.

22 With respect to **claim 25**, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to
23 the discussion above regarding amended claim 5, neither Hou nor Sidana,
24 individually or in combination, discloses or suggests an identifier of a location of
25 media content that is after the beginning of the media content and is where

1 rendering of the media content should begin in response to selection of the
2 identifier of the media content in the electronic mail message as claimed in
3 amended claim 25. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits
4 that amended claim 25 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

5 With respect to **claim 28**, amended claim 28 depends from amended claim
6 25, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 28 is allowable
7 over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to
8 amended claim 25. Furthermore, amended claim 28 includes:

9 wherein the electronic mail message further includes an identifier of
10 **one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to**
11 **categories for annotations, that the new annotation is associated**
12 **with.**

12 See, emphasis added, lines 1-4. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou
13 nor Sidana discloses or suggests an identifier of one or more annotation sets,
14 corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new annotation is associated
15 with as claimed in amended claim 28. Hou discloses an "annotation on
16 annotation" that allows a user to select a desired segment of an annotation and
17 make a new annotation which is a reply to this selected segment. Such an
18 "annotation on annotation" merely allows one annotation to annotate another, not
19 identify a category (or categories) that the annotation corresponds to. Thus,
20 Applicant respectfully submits that Hou does not disclose or suggest an identifier
21 of one or more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for
22 annotations, that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim
23 28.

24 Sidana is not cited as disclosing an identifier of one or more of a plurality
25 of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations, that a new

1 annotation is associated with as claimed in amended 28, and Applicant
2 respectfully submits that Sidana does not disclose or suggest an identifier of one or
3 more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations,
4 that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim 28. Thus,
5 given that neither Hou nor Sidana discloses or suggests an identifier of one or
6 more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations,
7 that a new annotation is associated with, Applicant respectfully submits that the
8 combination of Hou and Sidana does not disclose or suggest an identifier of one or
9 more of a plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for annotations,
10 that a new annotation is associated with as claimed in amended claim 28. For at
11 least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 28 is
12 allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

13 With respect to **claim 31**, amended claim 31 includes:

14 receiving an electronic mail notification of an annotation
15 corresponding to media content;

16 replying to the electronic mail notification to generate a new
17 annotation corresponding to the media content;

18 including, in the reply, **an identifier of one or more
19 annotation sets that the new annotation is associated with;** and

20 displaying **a default recipient, corresponding to the
21 identified one or more annotation sets, that is to receive an
22 electronic mail notification of the new annotation.**

23 See, emphasis added, lines 2-10. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Hou
24 nor Sidana discloses or suggests a default recipient corresponding to the identified
25 one or more annotation sets that is to receive an electronic mail notification of the
new annotation as claimed in amended claim 31. Hou and Sidana, as discussed
above, both reference simply e-mail recipients. Applicant respectfully submits
that the mere mention of an e-mail recipient does not disclose or suggest a default

1 recipient corresponding to the identified one or more annotation sets that are to
2 receive an electronic mail notification of the new annotation as claimed in
3 amended claim 31. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits
4 that amended claim 31 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

5 With respect to **claim 37**, Applicant respectfully submits that, similar to the
6 discussion above regarding claim 1, neither Hou nor Sidana, individually or in
7 combination, discloses or suggests extracting both annotation content and
8 annotation identification information from a received electronic mail message that
9 is not in reply to a previous electronic mail message as claimed in amended claim
10 37. Hou discloses sending a report including an annotation to a receiver, or using
11 some reply ability to generate a new annotation, not extracting both annotation
12 content and annotation identification information from an electronic mail message
13 that is not in reply to a previous electronic mail message as claimed in amended
14 claim 37. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that
15 amended claim 37 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana.

16 With respect to **claim 39**, amended claim 39 depends from amended claim
17 37, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 39 is allowable
18 over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to
19 amended claim 37. Furthermore, amended claim 39 includes:

20 **an identifier of an annotation set** that a new annotation
21 including the extracted annotation content is to be part of, wherein
22 the annotation set is one of one or more annotation sets
corresponding to categories for annotations.

23 See, emphasis added, lines 7-9. Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to
24 the discussion above regarding amended claim 28, the cited references do not
25 disclose or suggest an email message including an identifier of an annotation set

1 that a new annotation including the extracted annotation content is to be part of as
2 claimed in amended claim 39. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant
3 respectfully submits that amended claim 39 is allowable over Hou in view of
4 Sidana.

5 With respect to **claims 3-4, 14-16, 26-27, 29-30, 32, and 38**, given that
6 claims 3-4 depend from amended claim 1, claims 14-16 depend from amended
7 claim 13, claims 26-27 and 29-30 depend from amended claim 25, claim 32
8 depends from amended claim 31, and claim 38 depend from amended claim 37,
9 Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-4, 14-16, 26-27, 29-30, 32, and 38 are
10 likewise allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed
11 above with respect to their corresponding independent claims.

12 Claims 6-12, 17-24, and 33-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as
13 being unpatentable over Hou in view of Sidana and further in view of U.S. Patent
14 No. 5,923,848 to Goodhand et al. (hereinafter "Goodhand"). Claims 7 and 34
15 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection to claims 7
16 and 34 moot. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6, 8-12, 17-24, 33, and
17 35-36, as amended, are not obvious over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

18 With respect to **claim 6**, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to
19 the discussion above regarding amended claim 37, neither Hou nor Sidana,
20 individually or in combination, discloses or suggests a method including
21 communicating, as an electronic mail message that is not in reply to another
22 electronic mail message, the new annotation to an annotation server as claimed in
23 amended claim 6. Goodhand is cited as disclosing a field via which the user can
24 identify a recipient that is to receive an electronic mail message and notification
25 comprising a new annotation (see, July 27 Office Action, ¶ 4, p. 4). Applicant

1 respectfully submits that Goodhand is not cited as disclosing, and does not
2 disclose, communicating, as an electronic mail message that is not in reply to
3 another electronic mail message, the new annotation to an annotation server as
4 claimed in amended claim 6. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the
5 combination of Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand does not disclose or suggest
6 communicating, as an electronic mail message that is not in reply to another
7 electronic mail message, the new annotation to an annotation server as claimed in
8 amended claim 6. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits
9 that claim 6 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

10 With respect to **claim 17**, amended claim 17 includes:

11 receiving an electronic mail notification of a new annotation
12 corresponding to media content, the new annotation corresponding
13 to one of a plurality of temporal segments after the beginning of the
media content;
14 presenting the electronic mail notification to a user;
15 receiving a user input to access the media content; and
16 accessing, upon receiving the user input, a media server to
stream, for **rendering to the user, the media content beginning**
with the one of the plurality of segments that corresponds to the
new annotation.

17 See, emphasis added, lines 2-9. Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to
18 the discussion above regarding amended claim 5, neither Hou nor Sidana,
19 individually or in combination, discloses or suggests streaming media content
20 beginning with the one of the plurality of segments that corresponds to a new
21 annotation. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no disclosure or
22 suggestion in either Hou or Sidana of displaying any content anywhere other than
23 at the beginning. Applicant respectfully submits that Goodhand is not cited as
24 disclosing, and does not disclose, streaming media content beginning with the one
25

1 of the plurality of segments that corresponds to a new annotation as claimed in
2 amended claim 17. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of
3 Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand does not disclose or suggest streaming media content
4 beginning with the one of the plurality of segments that corresponds to a new
5 annotation as claimed in amended claim 17. Thus, for at least these reasons,
6 Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is allowable over Hou in view of
7 Sidana and Goodhand.

8 With respect to **claim 19**, amended claim 19 depends from amended claim
9 17, and Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 19 is allowable
10 over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to
11 amended claim 17. Furthermore, amended claim 19 includes:

12 **an annotation set identifier** that identifies one or more of a
13 plurality of annotation sets, corresponding to categories for
14 annotations, that the new annotation is part of.

15 See, emphasis added, lines 10-12. Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous
16 to the discussion above regarding amended claim 28, the cited references do not
17 disclose or suggest an annotation set identifier that identifies one or more
18 annotation sets that the new annotation is part of as claimed in amended claim 19.
19 Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim
20 19 is allowable over Hou in view of Sidana and Goodhand.

21 With respect to **claim 23**, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to
22 the discussion above regarding amended claim 17, Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand,
23 individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest accessing, upon
24 receiving the user selection, a media server indicated by the identifier to begin, at a
25 point in the media content after the beginning of the media content and

1 corresponding to the new annotation, streaming the media content for presentation
2 to the user as claimed in amended claim 23. Thus, for at least these reasons,
3 Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 23 is allowable over Hou in
4 view of Sidana and Goodhand.

5 With respect to **claim 33**, amended claim 33 includes:

6 receiving an electronic mail thread including a plurality of
7 electronic mail messages;
8 **creating a plurality of annotations** from the plurality of
9 electronic mail messages in the electronic mail thread; and
10 **adding the plurality of annotations to an annotation**
11 **database.**

12 See, emphasis added, lines 2-6. Thus, in the method of amended claim 33, a
13 plurality of annotations are created from the plurality of electronic mail messages
14 in the single electronic mail thread and added to an annotation database. Although
15 Hou and Sidana discuss annotations, Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere
16 in those discussions is there a disclosure or suggestion to create multiple
17 annotations from a single electronic mail thread as claimed in amended claim 33.

18 Applicant respectfully submits that Goodhand is not cited as disclosing, and
19 furthermore does not disclose, creating multiple annotations from a single
20 electronic mail thread as claimed in amended claim 33. Thus, given that none of
21 Hou, Sidana, or Goodhand discloses creating multiple annotations from a single
22 electronic mail thread as claimed in amended claim 33, Applicant respectfully
23 submits that the combination of Hou, Sidana, and Goodhand does not disclose or
24 suggest creating multiple annotations from a single electronic mail thread as
25 claimed in amended claim 33. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant
respectfully submits that amended claim 33 is allowable over Hou in view of
Sidana and Goodhand.

1 With respect to **claims 8-12, 18, 20-22, 24, and 35-36**, given that claims 8-
2 12 depend from amended claim 6, claims 18 and 20-22 depend from amended
3 claim 17, claim 24 depends from amended claim 23, and claims 35-36 depend
4 from amended claim 33, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8-12, 18, 22,
5 24, and 35-36 are likewise allowable over the cited references for at least the
6 reasons discussed above with respect to their corresponding independent claims.

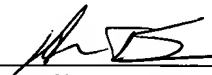
7 Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejections be withdrawn.

8
9 **Conclusion**

10 Claims 1-6, 8-25, 27-33, and 35-39 are in condition for allowance.
11 Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject
12 application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned
13 attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve
14 any such outstanding matter.

15
16 Respectfully Submitted,

17
18 Date: Oct. 25, 2000

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